Medical Sciences at Shillong has started functioning;

(b) if not, by when it will start functioning; and

(c) whether Government are proposing to create a central pool of seats for Post Graduate Medical Education for the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) and (b) Civic works have been undertaken for providing 30 bedded hospital facilities for starting services in the Cardiology and Gastroenterology etc.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Infant Mortality in Orissa

1494. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the trend of infant mortality rate in Orissa compared to all India average; and

(b) what special steps are being taken to reduce infant mortality in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM EQBAL SHERVANI): (a) The infant mortality rate is showing a declining trend. The estimated infant mortality rate for Orissa is higher than that for India. The estimates of infant mortality rate for India and Orissa for the last 10 years are given in the statement *(see* below).

(b) The Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme is being implemented in all the districts of Orissa. Under the Programme immunisation, prophylaxis against vitamin-A deficiency, appropriate management of diarrhoeal diseases nad acute respiratory infections and essential newborn care are being provided to reduce infant mortality.

Statement

Annual Estimates of Infant Mortality Rate India and Orissa, 1985—1994

Year	India**	Orissa
1985	97	132
1986	96	123
1987	95	126
1988	94	122
1989	91	121
1990	80	122
1991	80*	124
1992	79*	115
1993	74*	110
1994	.74*	103

** — Exclude Mizoram.
* — Excludes Jammu & Kashmir and Mozoram. Source : Sample Registration System.

Reconstitution of the Expert Committee on Tobacco

1495. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA:
SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:
SHRI HANUMANTHA RAO:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND. FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had considered the possibility of changing the composition of the present Expert Committee on Tobacco;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the composition of the present Expert Committee on Tobacco;

(d) whether the Expert Committee on Tobacco consists mainly of doctors and others involved in anti-tobacco writings and pronouncements;

(e) if so, whether there was a demand from the trade unions and farmers' union for their representation into the Expert Committee. if so, details thereof; and

(f) steps taken to include them into the Expert Committee so as to make it more balanced and representative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM EQBAL SHERVANI): (a) to (d) An Expert Committee was set up with the composition indicated in statement *(see* below). The Committee comproses economists, doctors representatives of the Tobacco Board, the Central Tobacco Research Institute and the Indian Tobacco Association.

(e) and (f) There was a demand for inclusion of representatives of Trade Unions. Farmers & Tobacco Growers' Associations, Beedi Worker and Employees, Federation on the Expert Committee on Tobacco, to project their views in the Committee. The representatives have been requested on 30th November, 1995 to formulate their views single or jointly on the proposed legislation and to place them before the Deputy Director General of Health Services, who would assimilate the same to the notice of the Government.

Statement

Composition of the Expert Committee to undertake a comparative study on the economies to tobacco use

Chairman

1. Prof. K.N. Kobra,
   Indian Institute of Public Administration, Indraprastha Estate, New Delhi.

Members:

2. Dr. A.K. Kundu,
   Deputy Director General (P), Dte. General of Health Services.
3. Director,
   V.P. Chest Institute, University of Delhi.
4. Dr. Prakash C. Gupta,
   Senior Research Scientist, Tata Memorial Instt. for Fundamental Research, Bombay.
5. Dr. K.S. Reddy,
   Professor of Cardiology,
   All India Instt. of Medical Sciences, New Delhi.
6. Dr. N. Anantha,
   Director, Kidwai Memorial Instt. of Oncology, Bangalore
7. Dr. Sukhdev Thort,
   Additional Professor of Economics, School of Social Sciences, Jawahar Lal University.
8. Prof. K.N. Reddy,
   National Instt. of Financial Policy & Planning, New Delhi.
9. Representative of Tobacco Board, Ministry of Commerce.
10. Director, Central Tobacco Research Institute, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh.
11. Representative of Indian Tobacco Association, Virginia House, 37, Chourunghee, Calcutta-700071.
12. Concenor
    Dr. Kishore Chaudhry,
    Assistant Director General, Indian Council of Medical